

Shri Govindram Miri

mistry teachers are lying vacant or recruitment has been made on an adhoc basis against the norms. Very often the question of surplus teachers in the Kendriya Vidyalayas has been raised on different occasions in the Parliament. The standard reply has been a denial and the response has been that "there is no overall surplus." Sir, this reply is contrary to the facts. The transfers have not been done in accordance with the guidelines. The Transfer Committee, constituted in May, 1992 is said to have ceased so function with effect from 17th August, 1993.

Sir, the staff strength for each Kendriya Vidyalaya, drawn up annually and based on certain parameters, is often violated. The result is that many Kendriya Vidyalayas have more than the sanctioned strength. What is more, schools without the sanctioned staff strength are then forced to recruit staff on an ad-hoc basis. In Delhi itself, 15 primary teachers, 32 trained graduate teachers, 16 post-graduate teachers and two miscellaneous staff are in surplus. Thus, there are 65 surplus teachers in Delhi alone. In Bhopal region, the incumbents exceeded the sanctioned strength by 97. In Jaipur, the surplus was 77, and in Lucknow it was 65. Bombay, Calcutta, Patna and other regions too had a sizeable number exceeding the number of posts available. If we work out the total number of surplus, it comes to nearly 1500 which alone is responsible for being an additional burden worth Rs. 10 crores on the public exchequer. The Audit Department has already taken a serious note of this after scrutinizing the statistical data as on 30th April, 1993.

Sir, I urge upon the new Minister in charge to have control over this administrative corrupt practice of his predecessor. I also request him to

run to run the Organisation smoothly after taking the KV Organisation Employees' Union and its joint Sang-harsh Samiti into confidence, in order to get it in proper order with glory, as it was in the past. Thank you, Sir.

Need for continuance of regional office of O.N.G.C. at Madras

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMB (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. Sir, the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited has its southern regional office at Madras since 1967. Sir, 4,000 employees are relying upon this Organisation for their livelihood, some of them indirectly. According to one statement, Rs. 140 crores have been spent so far towards establishment and development of its activities for the regional office at Madras, including office buildings, land for their residential colony, storage yards, installation of communications, geo-science and chemistry labs etc. Sir, the location of any regional office should be in such a place 'from where the executives can administer in a better manner throughout the jurisdiction area. If you take this aspect as well as the infrastructure facilities like international airports and port facilities into consideration. Madras City is the only better and proper location for the Regional Office.

However, Sir, when Shri Satish Sharma, the hon. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, was speaking to newsmen at Rajahmundry in the month of January when he went there to expedite the work in regard to extinguishing the blow-out which took place at Pasarlapudi, said that the Regional Office would be shifted from Madras to Rajahmundry, in Andhra Pradesh. Sir, in this connection, I would like to point out that the O.N.G.C. is having one Liaison Office at Hyderabad since 1986. This

office was opened after studying various aspects of the issue. Now, without any rhyme or reason, the Government of India has decided to shift the O.N.G.C. Regional Office from Madras to Andhra Pradesh.

We do not have any objection to upgrading the facilities already available at the Hyderabad office, but we strongly condemn this sinister move manoeuvred by the Government of India. It is most unfortunate that the Government of Tamil Nadu has not risen to the occasion. They are sitting idle. No proper action has been taken by them to counter this sinister move of the Central Government. This clearly shows that the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is least bothered about the welfare of the people of Tamil Nadu. I strongly condemn the callous attitude of the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in this regard. Sir, the *per capita* investment by the Centre is very low in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry. Actually, in Ramanathapuram District in Tamil Nadu, the exploration work undertaken by the O.N.G.C. has been considerably slowed down now. Under these circumstances, the decision to shift the Regional Office from Madras to any other place outside Tamil Nadu is highly condemnable. (*Time-bell rings*). Just one minute, Sir. I am concluding. Sir, the O.N.G.C. Headquarters at Dehradun took an unusual interest. This is nothing but a disservice to the people of Tamil Nadu by the Centre. Though the Central Government has not come forward to invest in Tamil Nadu, though it has not come forward to develop the industries in Tamil Nadu, it is prepared to close down an office already existing there.

Therefore, through you, Sir, I would request the Government of India that they should not shift the Regional Office from Madras. This is one thing. I hope the Centre would protect the employment opportunities available to the local people there. Apart from this, I do not

know how the Government of India took such a drastic step without consulting the people of Tamil Nadu, without consulting the Government of Tamil Nadu. I strongly condemn this attitude of the central government as well as the action on the part of the State Government (*lime-oell rings*). Through you, Sir, I once again request the Government of India that they should put a fullstop to this move. Thank you.

SHRI MISA R. GANESAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, this is a very serious matter. I associate myself with the Special Mention made by my colleague, Shri Viduthalai Virumbi.

SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with this.

SHRI K. K. VEERAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with this.

Need to restore railway and road link to Dhanushkodi in Rameshwaram

SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL (Madhya Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to make this special Mention.

Sir, last week, I had an occasion to visit Rameshwaram. I thought it necessary that I should bring to the notice of the House and, through the medium of this House, to the notice of the Government of India what I saw there. As you know, Dhanushkodi, which is in the Rameswaram Island in Tamil Nadu, is a very sacred place for the people of this country. It is also a strategically well-located area. It is the closest land area to Sri Lanka. Until a few years back, this was connected by rail as well as by road. There was a pier and because of that there was a regular steamer service between Dhanushkodi and Talai Mannar in Sri Lanka.